



MCC[®]

METROPOLITAN
COMMUNITY CHURCH
OF THE LEHIGH VALLEY

Sunday, March 23, 2014
3rd Lent

*The Pursuit of
Holiness:
Holy, Holy, Holy*

930 North 4th Street ♦ Allentown, PA 18102
610-709-8800 ♦ info@mcclv.org ♦ www.mcclv.org

**The Mission of MCCLV is to call all people to a holy life in
Christ, changing lives and transforming the world**

MCC LEHIGH VALLEY ORDER OF SERVICE

As you prepare for worship, take a few moments to reflect on the current state of your relationship with God. Is the communication channel completely open and free of any cross-traffic that might interfere with your ability to hear from God? What do you need to let go of, so that you may let God take control? Close your eyes, take a deep breath and let worship begin for you...

Opening Song

Call to Worship

Invitation to Ministry

A Time of Praise (3 Songs)

Prayer Preparation Song

Prayer

Scripture Reading

Children's Blessing

Live Boldly

Message

Song of Response

Offering

Offering Song

Communion

Communion Song

Prayer Over Gifts

Closing Song

Commission & Blessing

NOTES FROM THE MCCLV

office

Administrative Assistant Paula Merkel

Office Hours:

Monday: 8am-2pm

Tues-Thurs: 8am-1pm

Fri: 8am-12 noon

Sunday Bulletin & Announcements

The deadline for all bulletin notices & announcements is
Wednesday at noon – email to office@mcclv.org

Looking for low-cost space for you birthday party or family celebration? Consider MCCLV's Fellowship Hall and kitchen for your gathering! Contact Administrative Assistant Paula Merkel at 610-709-8800 or e-mail office@mcclv.org for more information.

Audio-Visual Support: Anyone planning an event at MCCLV **is required to see Music & Worship Director Brian Jones** in advance to arrange any needed AV support. The church may not be able to honor last minute requests.

Space Reservation: Any individual or group wishing to schedule a meeting or event at the church **is required to fill out a space reservation form**. Write to office@mcclv.org more information.



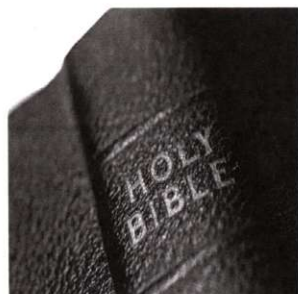
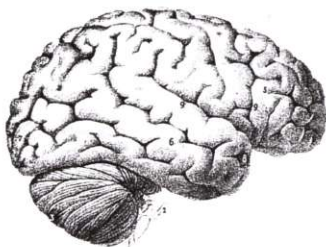
MCCLV IS ON FACEBOOK!

Search **MCC Lehigh Valley**. All MCCLV related posts and tags will be approved through the office.
Thank you for your cooperation!

Feast Your Brain on the Bible for 9 Weeks!

Starting in May, MCCLV will host an in-depth study of Paul's Letters to the Romans and Corinthians. The studies will be led by Rev.

Goudy and people from all levels of Biblical background are invited to take part. The Romans study is titled "*Why Do Evangelicals Love Romans So Much They Want to Marry It?*" The 1 Corinthians study is titled "*A Conflicted Church*" and the 2 Corinthians study is titled "*A Conflicted Church, Continued*." All are welcome and warmly encouraged to grow in Biblical knowledge, wisdom and interpretation. For more information contact the Pastor at rev.goudy@mcclv.org or 610-709-8800.



May 21 at 7pm: Romans 1-4
May 28 @ 7pm: Romans 5-8
June 4 @ 7pm: Romans 9-12
June 11 @ 7pm: Romans 13-16
June 18 @ 7pm: 1 Corinthians 1-6
June 25 @ 7pm: 1 Corinthians 7-10
July 2 @ 7pm: 1 Corinthians 11-16
July 9 @ 7pm: 2 Corinthians 1-7:4
July 16 @ 7pm: 2 Corinthians 7:5-13



MCCLV IS ON YOUTUBE!

To view and subscribe to our channel go to www.youtube.com and search **MCC LV**.

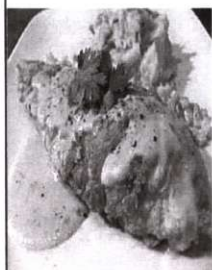
MCCLV'S COMMUNITY FOOD PANTRY

Open every Sunday at 12:00-1:00 PM to serve the community. The pantry is in need of donations. Drop off items in front of the pantry door. Thank you!



FREE WEDNESDAY NIGHT DINNERS "PEOPLE OF FAITH" VIDEOS

Be a part of MCCLV's 2014 Wednesday Night Lenten Video Series and **FREE Dinners!** The weekly 30-minute video surveys the history of Christianity in the United States.



March 26th, 7:00 PM

"Rebels with a Cause"

- Retirees providing meal

April 2nd, 7:00 PM

"Challenges and Change"

- Choir providing meal

April 9th, 7:00 PM

"Home Grown Saints"

- 20s30s providing meal

April 16th, 7:00 PM

"The Future of Christianity"

- Worship Team providing meal

RSVP to office@mcclv.org or 610-709-8800. All ages are welcome. **A great family activity!**

Earn Money for MCCLV Shopping at AmazonSmile

AmazonSmile is a simple and automatic way to support MCCLV at no cost. To shop at AmazonSmile go to www.smile.amazon.com and 0.5% of any product marked "Eligible for AmazonSmile donation" will be donated to MCCLV. Those with an existing Amazon account, can continue to use that same account on AmazonSmile. First time visitors to www.smile.amazon.com will need to select a charitable organization to receive donations. MCCLV is listed as "MCC of the Lehigh Valley" and will be remembered so that all future purchases made at AmazonSmile will result in a donation to MCCLV. Questions, please see any member of the Board.

amazon.com
Smile

DO YOU HAVE A CARE NEED?

Are you scheduled for surgery? Do you desire a home visit? Are you in need of a prayer partner? MCCLV's Congregational Care & Health Ministry Coordinator is Karl Steiner. Let Karl know your care needs by seeing him in person following the worship service, e-mailing him at karl.steiner@mcclv.org or phoning him at (610) 987-2858. Karl will coordinate care for you through MCCLV.



Food Pantry

Contributions are always needed for MCCLV's Food Pantry, bring in a donation whenever you are able. Volunteers are also needed for the Pantry.

Contact Judy McNally via e-mail at:
njm0@lehigh.edu



MCCLV Pastor To Serve As Clergy Wellbeing Coach

MCCLV Pastor Beth Goudy has been invited to serve as a Clergy Wellbeing Coach for the denomination of Metropolitan Community Churches. After training, Rev. Goudy will assist in providing pastoral care for clergy, will help in offering programs on developing clergy wellbeing and will serve as an advocate for clergy who are struggling with spiritual, emotional, addiction or other health issues. Rev. Goudy's service will take place within the Office of Leadership & Development, administered by the Clergy Wellbeing Coordinator.



MCCLV Drumming Meets Twice a Month



MCCLV drumming is held the 3rd and 4th Sundays at 1:00PM. Bring your drum or other percussion instruments. See Kate Rickson (k.rickson55@gmail.com) for more information.



HIV Positive Support Group

A HIV support group at MCCLV meets the 2nd Sunday of each month at 12:30pm. The focus is on living a positive life with HIV—the group is called HIV/Positive Living. This will be a chance to share and have candid discussions. This group is limited to those with HIV, but there will be occasional guest speakers. If you are interested, please contact **Dean Hiatt** at robdean@ptd.net

*The name of the LORD is a strong tower;
The righteous run to it and are safe.*

Proverbs 18:10

“Take Me Out to the Ballgame” – MCCLV Softball Fun to Begin Soon!

A group of MCCLV'ers are getting ready to enjoy another summer of fun on the softball field. The plan is to gather, scrimmage and have tons of pure fun and fellowship. Players, spectators, cheerleaders, all are welcome! The first gathering will be on **Sunday, April 6th at 2:00PM** and will be held at “Hitter’s Edge”, 3679 Eberhart Rd, Whitehall, PA 18052. Following that, the group will meet at 2:00PM on the 1st and 4th Sunday of every month (April



to August) at Dieruff HS Field, 815 N. Irving St., Allentown, PA 18109, culminating with an “end of the season” picnic on August 24th. Don’t forget your sunscreen, glove and water -- come out and join in the fun!

MCCLV's WELD Membership process includes participant's writing a letter to God. Below is WELDer Shawn DeVault's letter. Enjoy!

Dear God,

Hello and greetings from Allentown, PA ...

You have created me and given me these gifts:

- Passion for kids
- Perseverance
- Humor

You are growing me spiritually in these ways:

- Working on my patience/trust in your timing
- Giving up control to allow God and others to help me
- Growing in self-confidence and confidence in my gifts

I want to respond to You in these ways:

- Trusting you, your plan, your timing
- Help others grow closer to you, through the lessons you use to help/improve me too
- Excitedly walking new steps in the path you've created for me

Love,

Shawn DeVault (03/03/2014)



Save The Date!

MCCLV's **30th Anniversary Banquet**
has been scheduled for **May 31, 2014.**

More details to come soon!

Happy
Anniversary

MCCLV's WELD Membership process includes participant's writing a letter to God. Below is WELDer Rourke O'Donnell's letter. Enjoy!

Dear God,

Hello and greetings from Allentown, PA ...

You have created me and given me these gifts:

- Perseverance, patience, empathy
- A loving family and loving friends

You are growing me spiritually in these ways:

- Facing daily challenges of epilepsy
- Acceptance and trust in You
- Helping me to find peace

I want to respond to You in these ways:

- By spreading your message of peace and love
- Helping others with epilepsy to understand your plan for them
- Living out your teachings

Love,

Rourke O'Donnell

(03/03/2014)



Want to Know More About MCCLV?

Learn about the blessings that your church is experiencing right now at a Congregational Forum on **Sunday, May 4**. The gathering will start with a **Potluck Meal at 12:00PM**, followed by the **Forum from 12:30-2:00PM**. Strategic goals will be reviewed, along with updated financial information.

All are welcome, no need to be a church member.

Thank you in advance for all that you have done so far in 2014 to glorify God through MCCLV - your time, talent and treasure really do make a difference!



Centering Prayer
and Inner
Awakening



Cynthia Bourgeault

Are You Feeling Off-Center?

Is your life feeling a bit off-kilter or are you in need of a deeper way of prayer? In May, June and July MCCLV will offer Centering Prayer at 6:00PM on Wednesdays. It would be helpful (though not required) if participants would read Rev. Cynthia Bourgeault's book "Centering Prayer and Inner Awakening" before May. Questions? See Rev. Goudy or e-mail her at rev.goudy@mcclv.org

Adopt an Apartment

6th Street Shelter in Allentown
Service opportunity for MCCLVers

Mark your calendars now

April 5, 2014—9:00AM

Stay tuned for details!

E-mail: babaus@htomail.com



Bringing Christian Traditions Into Dialogue
HERE AT MCCLV IN 2014!

The
Convergence
Project

Meets every Sunday morning at MCCLV through April 13 at 9:00 AM, facilitated by Robert Schotter, robdean@ptd.net

March 30 Power and the Alternative Family Values of Jesus

April 6 Reading Scripture from the Margins

April 13 Finding Ourselves and Our Communities in Scripture

FORGE A stronger relationship with Christ and one another—join a FORGE group!

A FORGE group **is not** a Bible study, Christian training session, group therapy, nor a doctrinal boot camp.

A FORGE group **is** a small, relational gathering of Christians, primarily focused on **transformation** and not information, where people learn how to interpret their entire lives through the lens of gospel and grow in faith in Christ.



Groups meet every other week for one hour for worship, prayer, devotionals, testimonies and fellowship. Although groups are spread out geographically (South, East and West) to make them easier to get to, you may attend whichever group you choose, even if it is not the one nearest you.



FORGE South Leaders:

Loreli Bauer lorelibauer@aol.com

Elaine Ely pastor_elaine@yahoo.com



FORGE East Leaders:

Barb Baus babaus@hotmail.com

Lauren Sheldon laurenesheldon@gmail.com



FORGE West Leaders:

Scott George smgmccclv@gmail.com

Ron Smith rsmith.mccclv@gmail.com





Early Morning Prayer

What if you could pick up the phone any time you wanted and talk with the most powerful leader or most famous celebrity in the world? Multiply that concept by a million, skip the phone and you're connected to God. WOW! What an amazing gift we are given, 24/7, with the Creator.

Every Sunday at 8AM, MCCLV gathers to converse with God. Come and be blessed as you connect with God through conversational and silent prayer. It truly is an amazing 45 minutes that will start your week with real power. For more information, contact Karl Steiner, karl.steiner@mcclv.org

Worship Arts Ministry

MCCLV is incorporating multi-media, multiple readers, memorization, use of hand-held microphones and staged readings to breathe new life into the reading of sacred scripture on Sunday mornings.

Participants are required to take part in run-throughs immediately after worship the Sunday prior to the scripture presentation.

Contact ministry leader Dean Hiatt to participate or if you have any questions (email: robdean@ptd.net)



Retirees Gatherings

Retirees meet the 2nd and 4th Tuesday. Come and share some "golden" time with similarly blessed retirees!



For more information, contact Karl Steiner, karl.steiner@mcclv.org or Elaine Ely, pastor_elaine@yahoo.com



A QUOTE FOR YOUR WEEK

Hope is like the sun, which, as we
Journey toward it, casts the shadow
Of our burden behind us.

(Samuel Smiles)

DEALING WITH THE PAIN OF A LOSS?

Loss and grief are part of life, but can be difficult to process alone. Elaine Ely is a trained, experienced and certified specialist in the area of end-of-life issues, loss and grief, being hosted by MCCLV. Her current hours here are Wednesdays from 11:30 am to 2:30 pm (other hours can be arranged upon request).

For a single consultation or on-going counseling, reach her at elaine.ely.pastor@gmail.com or 215-915-4370. Also, watch for details on an upcoming workshop: "Facing Grief - Yours and Other's", and a 6 week support group series to be offered this fall.



Seder Dinner April 17, 2014 7:00PM MCCLV Sanctuary

The Deacons of MCCLV cordially invite you to a Celebration of Family and God's protection - a Seder Dinner on **Holy Thursday, April 17th at 7:00PM** in the Sanctuary.

There is no cost for this event but reservations are required. Add your name to the sign-up sheet in Fellowship Hall. Please consider bringing your family or a guest.





UPCOMING WORSHIP AT MCCLV

4th Lent: March 30, 2014

Scripture Reading: Isaiah 35:3-10

Preaching Rev. Elizabeth Goudy

Sermon Title: **"The Pursuit of Holiness V: A Highway Called Holy"**

5th Lent: April 6, 2014 @ 10:30am

Scripture Reading: Isaiah 57:13-18

Preaching: Rev. Elizabeth Goudy

Sermon Title: **"The Pursuit of Holiness VI: Humility"**

6th Lent: April 13, 2014 @ 10:30am

Scripture Readings: Psalm 118:19-29 & Matthew 21:1-11

Preaching: Rev. Elizabeth Goudy

Sermon Title: **"A Parade of Righteousness"**

Good Friday: April 18, 2014 @ 7:00pm

Scripture Readings: Hebrews 4:14-16 & 5:7-9

Preaching: Rev. Elizabeth Goudy

Sermon Title: **"Reverent Submission"**

Easter: April 20, 2014

Scripture Readings: Deuteronomy 10:12-22 & Psalm 140

Preaching: Rev. Elizabeth Goudy

Sermon Title: **"So There's No Partiality With God Yet Why Is The World So Partial?"**

Today's Scripture Reading:

Isaiah 6:1-8

In the year that King Uzziah died, I saw the Lord sitting on a throne, high and lofty; and the hem of the Lord's robe filled the temple. Seraphs were in attendance above the Lord; each had six wings: with two they covered their faces, and with two they covered their feet, and with two they flew. And one called to another and said:

'Holy, holy, holy is the Lord of hosts;
the whole earth is full of the Lord's glory.'

The pivots on the thresholds shook at the voices of those who called, and the house filled with smoke. And I said:

'Woe is me! I am lost, for I am a man of unclean lips, and I live among a people of unclean lips; yet my eyes have seen the Ruler, the Lord of hosts!'

Then one of the seraphs flew to me, holding a live coal that had been taken from the altar with a pair of tongs. The seraph touched my mouth with it and said: 'Now that this has touched your lips, your guilt has departed and your sin is blotted out.' Then I heard the voice of the Lord saying, 'Whom shall I send, and who will go for us?' And I said, 'Here am I; send me!'

MCCLV's Weekly 2014 Budgeted for Giving is 3,916.98

<u>Date</u>	<u>Attendance</u>	<u>Giving</u>
3/16/2014	99	\$4,584.50
3/9/2014	84	\$1,544.12
3/5/2014	58	\$719.00
3/2/2014	96	\$3276.33

Full financial reporting is provided at the Board meeting on the 2nd Sunday of every month. All are welcome to attend. Additionally, reports may be viewed in the Board binder in the Library.

MCCLV MINISTRY COORDINATORS

Congregational Care & Health:

Karl Steiner | karl.steiner@mcclv.org

20s30s Ministry, Faith Community Nurse, Hospitality,
Prayer Team and Reconciliation & Affirmation Ministry

Discipleship:

Robert Schotter | robdean@ptd.net

Small Group Discipleship, Spiritual Growth Programming
and Children & Youth Ministry

Outreach & Justice:

See Rev. Goudy for more information

Evangelism, Free Market, Silent Witness, Food Bank,
Messengers Art Ministry and Helping Hands Ministry

Media & Marketing:

See Rev. Goudy for more information

Communications and Marketing Ministry

Denominational Representatives:

Lay Delegates Hope Hilby and Normana Schaaf

MCCLV BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Sue Carpenter, Jim Harbst, Diana LaTorre,
Emma Marrero, Lauren Sheldon and Ron Smith

**If you would like an item included on the Board agenda
see any Board Member**

MCCLV DEACONS

Loreli Bauer, Maricel Concepcion, Clarence Freed, Hope Hilby,
Jessica Mitchell, Normana Schaaf, Karl Steiner and Carol Stevens

MCCLV STAFF

Pastor: Elizabeth Goudy | rev.goudy@mcclv.org

Music and Worship Director: Brian Jones | brian.jones@mcclv.org

Administrative Assistant: Paula Merkel | office@mcclv.org